Infiltration in GureZ Glacier

†1775. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale infiltration has taken place in Gurez Glacier and other areas of Jammu and Kashmir; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons of the failure for preventing infiltration; and

(c) what are the effective steps being taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There has been an increase in cross border infiltrations in the month of June and July 2005. An infiltration bid was countered on 13th July, 2005 in Gurez Sector in which 15 terrorists were killed and warlike stores recovered. Army has been successful in eliminating a large number of infiltration bids in the State of Jammu and Kashmir (J and K) in June and July, 2005 killing several militants during these bids.

(c) The Government has adopted a multi pronged approach to contain cross border infiltration. The overall counter infiltration measures deployed by the Army include a multi-tiered arrangement on the Line of Control (LOC) along with fencing, improved intelligence operational coordination and relentless operations in the hinterland so as to ensure that infiltration is minimized and violence levels in Jammu and Kashmir kept under check.

Review of arms and ammunition purchased

1776. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of arms and ammunition purchased from overseas suppliers during the last three years, with details of the suppliers and revenue implications in respect of each supply;

(b) whether Government have decided to review the purchases made during the last three years and has cancelled purchase orders in respect of certain arms suppliers; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Arms and ammunition worth Rs. 3065.53 crore were contracted with overseas suppliers during the last three years for the Armed forces. It will not be in the interest of national security to divulge details of the suppliers and revenue implications in respect of each supply.

(b) and (c) In the light of certain reports about alleged payment of agency commission by M/s Denel, South Africa, for facilitating contracts, a decision has been taken to initiate action to cancel all contracts entered into with M/s Denel.

Defence deal by India and US

1777. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and US set to sign landmark Defence deals which include guarding of sea lanes in this region;

(b) whether the issue of supplying F-18s to India came up for discussion during his recent visit to US?

(c) if so, what is the outcome of the meeting with regard to supply of F-18s to India; and

(d) what are the detailed agreements that India and US entered into during Prime Minister's visit to US?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A document entitled 'New Framework for the US-India Defence Relationship' was signed on June 28, 2005, during Raksha Mantri's visit to the United States of America (USA). RM had made a *Suo Motu* Statement on the document in the Rajya Sabha on August 2, 2005. While the document identifies the protection of commerce by land, sea and air as a shared security interest, and encourages promotion of defence trade and technology as major objectives, it does not refer specifically to guarding of sea lanes in the Indian Ocean region.

(b) and (c) There were no discussions on the supply of F-18s to India during the visit.